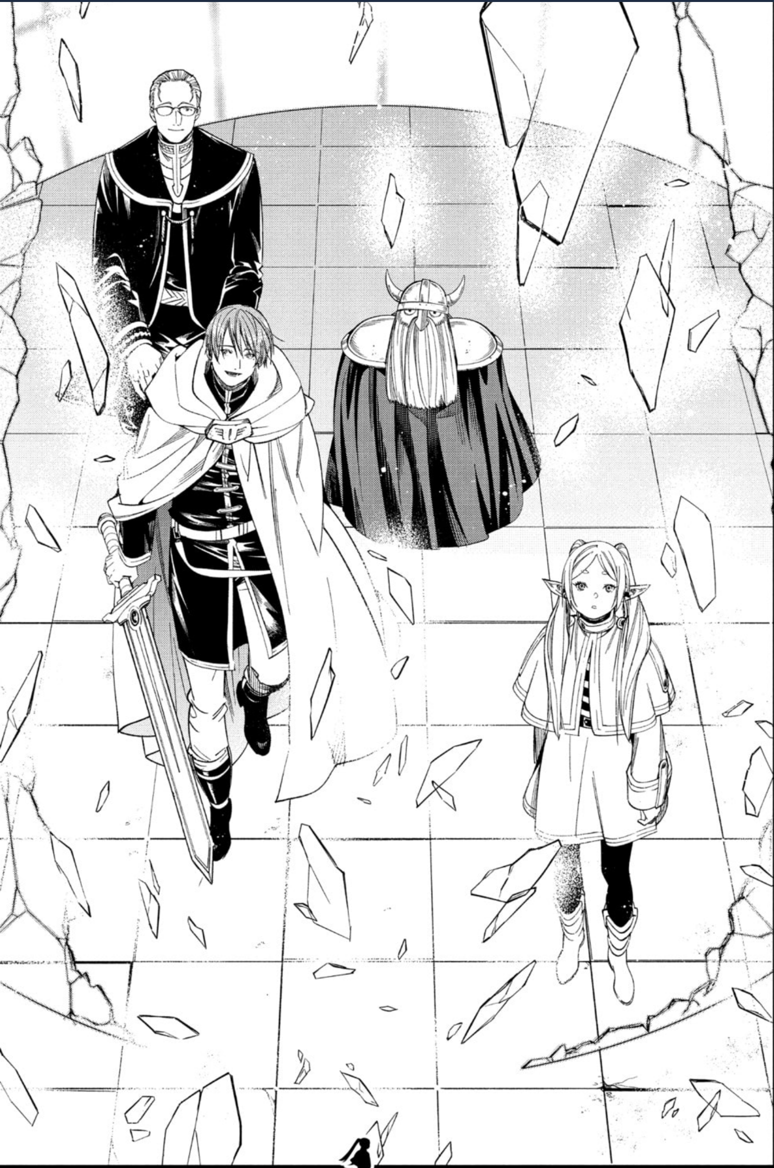
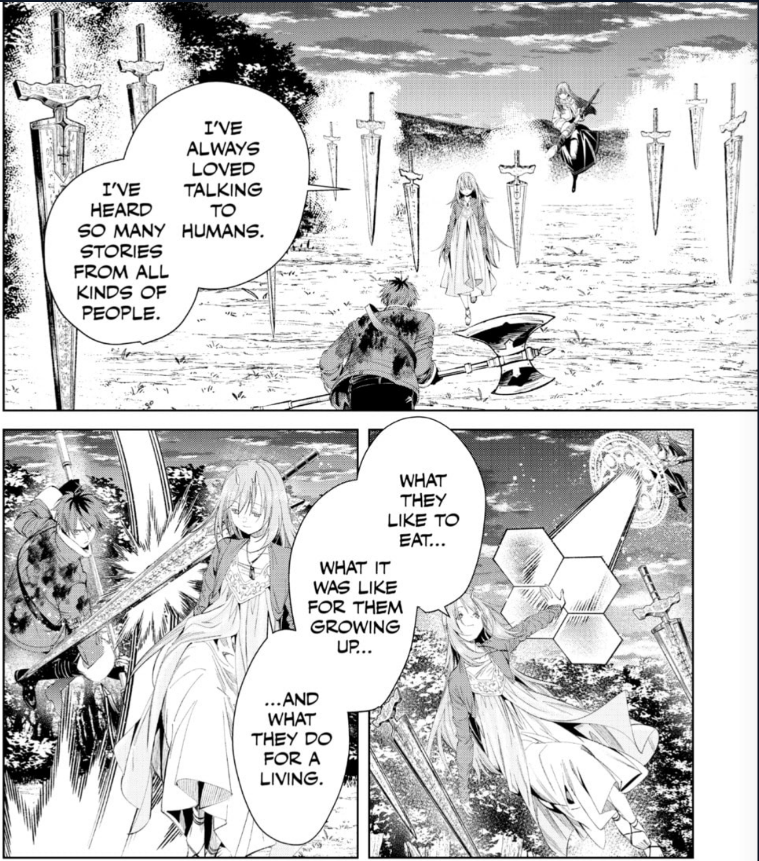
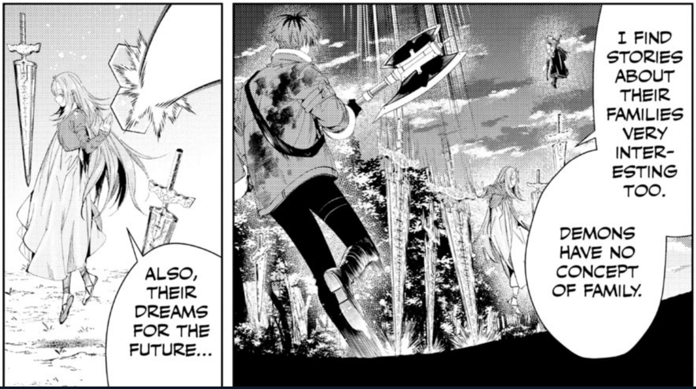
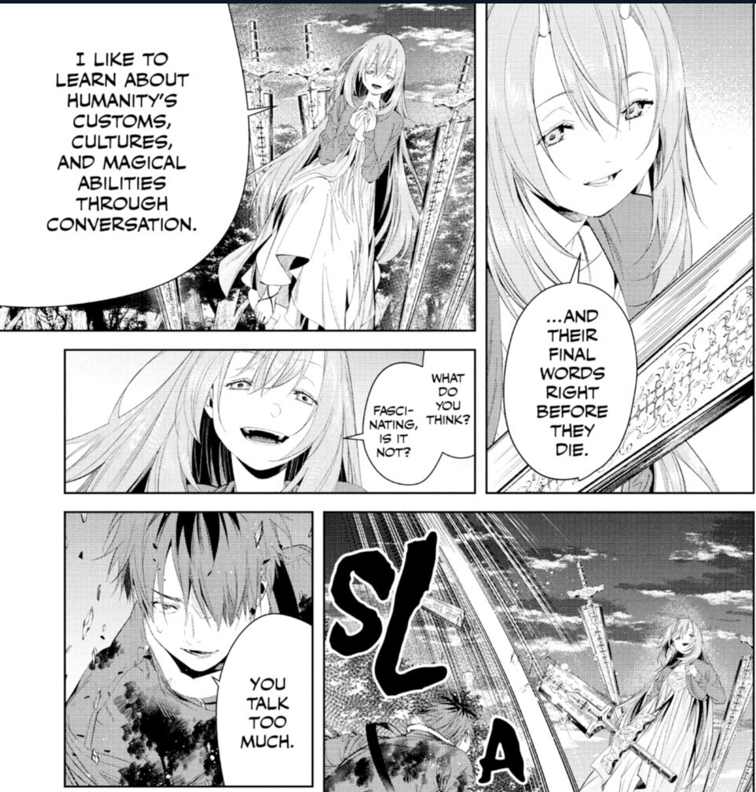
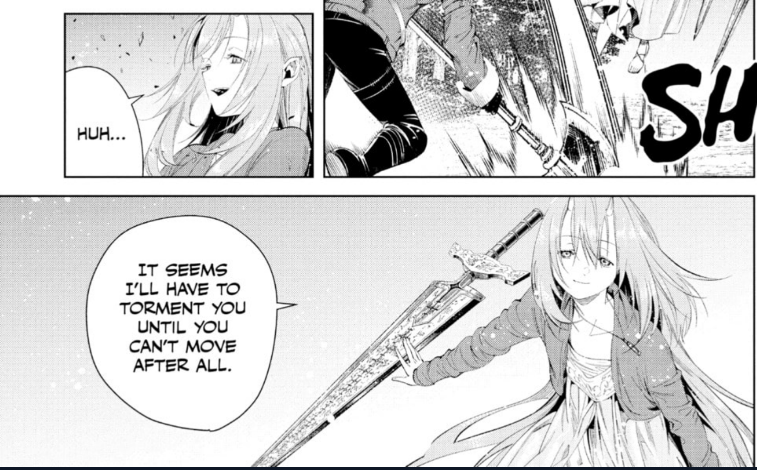


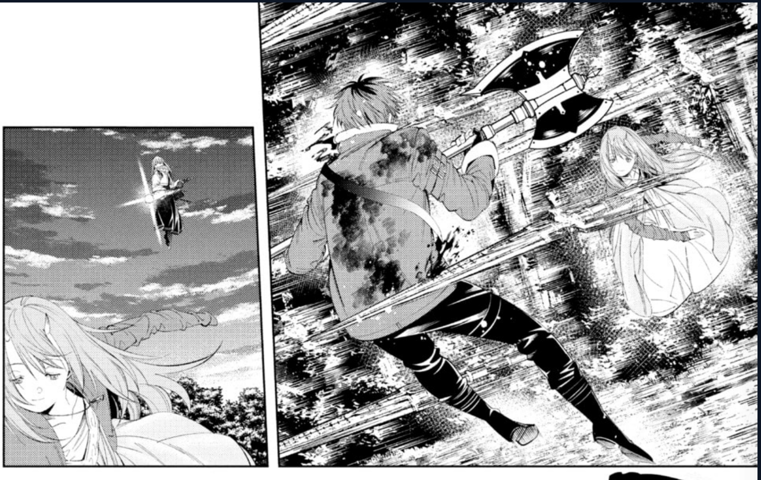
Chapter 97: Observation

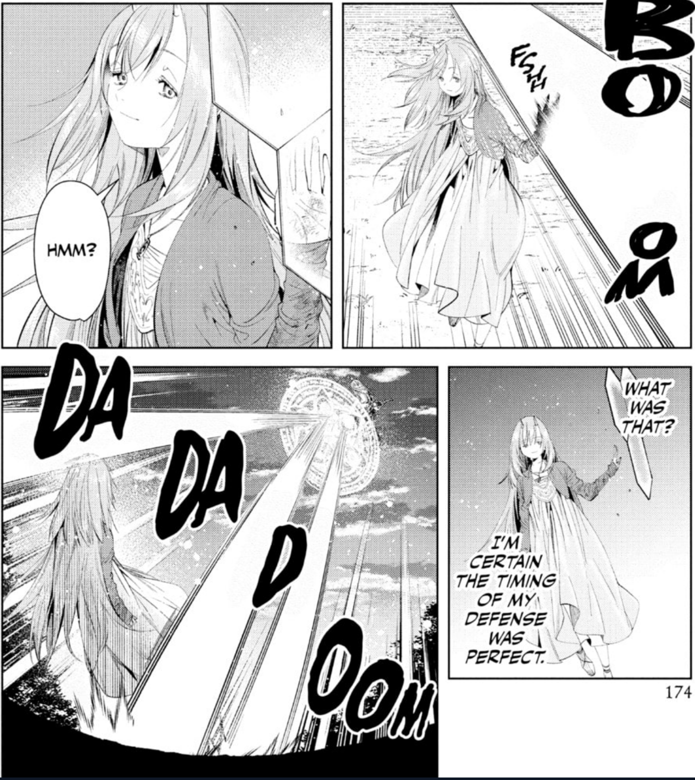

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED TALKING TO HUMANS.
I'VE HEARD SO MANY STORIES FROM ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE.
WHAT THEY LIKE TO EAT...
WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR THEM GROWING UP...
...AND WHAT THEY DO FOR A LIVING.

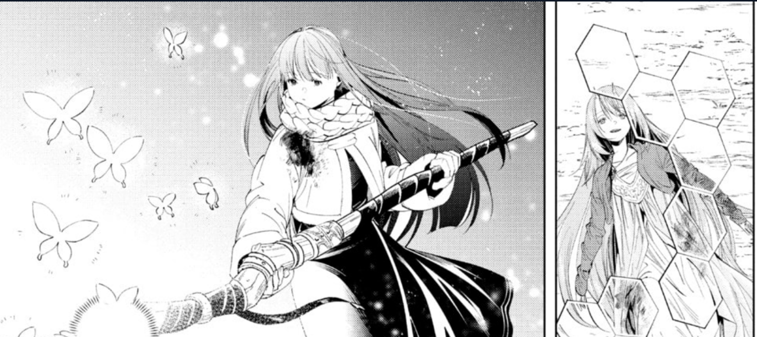

I FIND STORIES ABOUT THEIR FAMILIES VERY INTERESTING TOO.
DEMONS HAVE NO CONCEPT OF FAMILY.
ALSO, THEIR DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE...

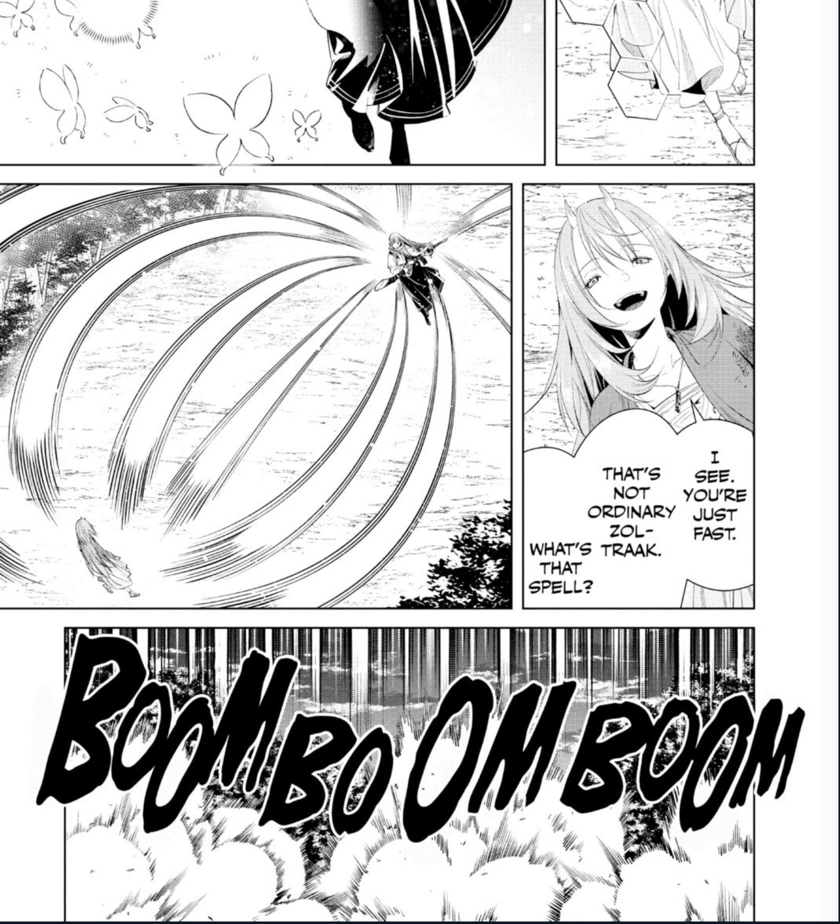

I LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT HUMANITY'S CUSTOMS, CULTURES, AND MAGICAL ABILITIES THROUGH CONVERSATION.
...AND THEIR FINAL WORDS RIGHT BEFORE THEY DIE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
FASCINATING, IS IT NOT?
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
SL
A

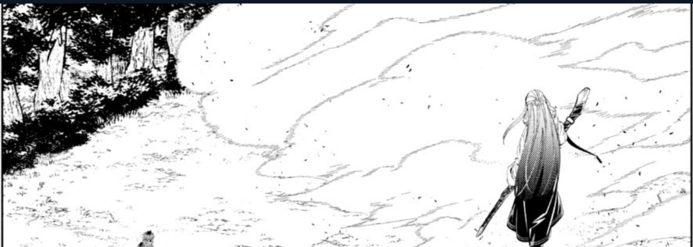

SH
HUH...
IT SEEMS I'LL HAVE TO TORMENT YOU UNTIL YOU CAN'T MOVE AFTER ALL.

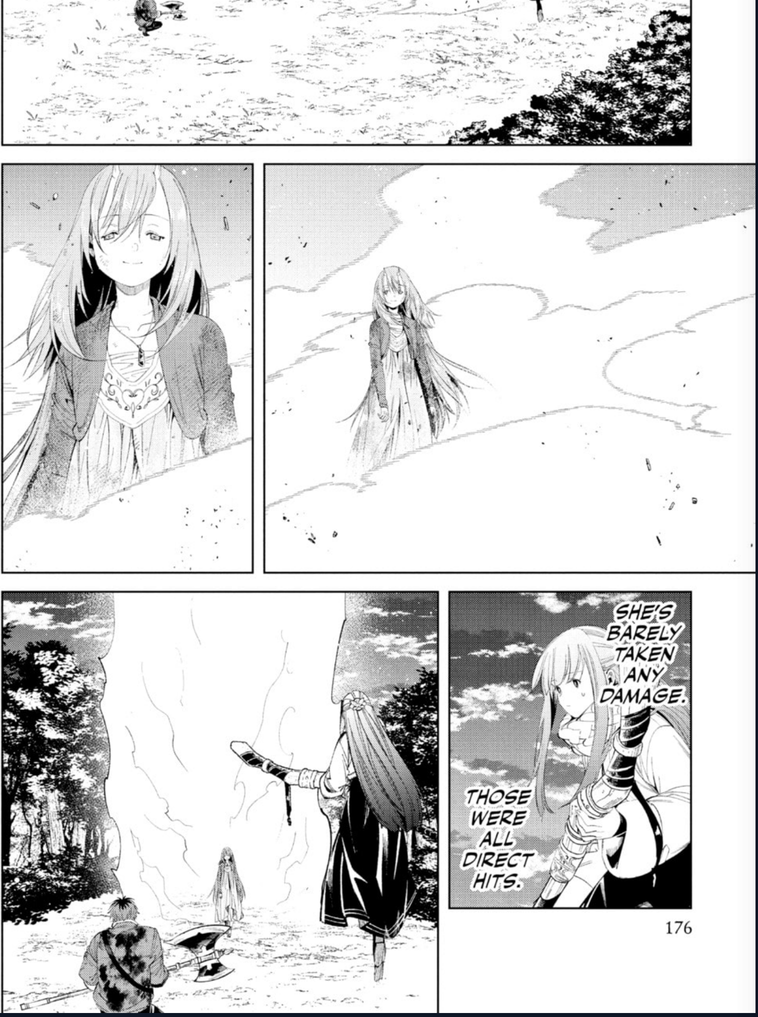


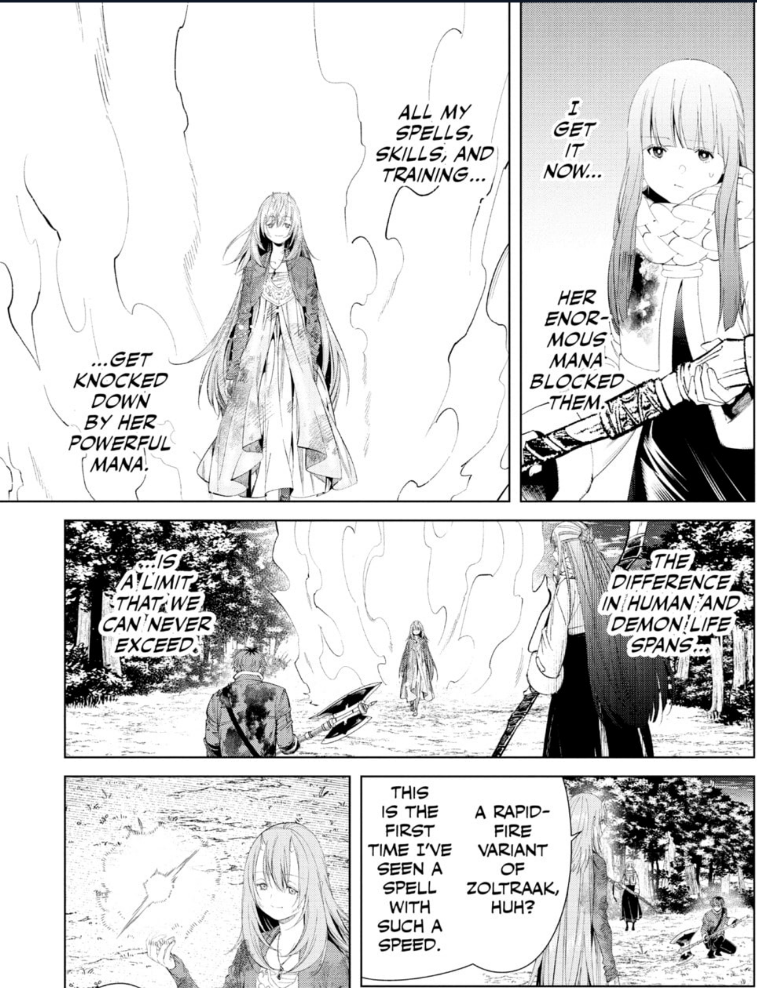

BO
OM
FSHH
HMM?
WHAT WAS THAT?
I'M CERTAIN THE TIMING OF MY DEFENSE WAS PERFECT.
DA
DA
D
OOM

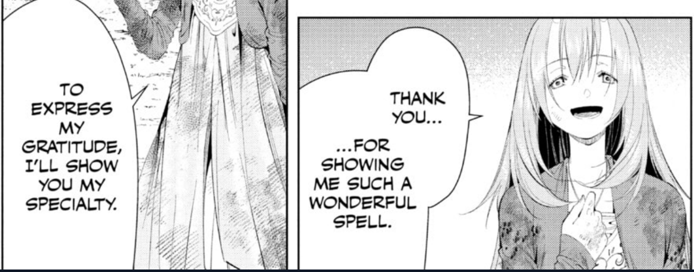


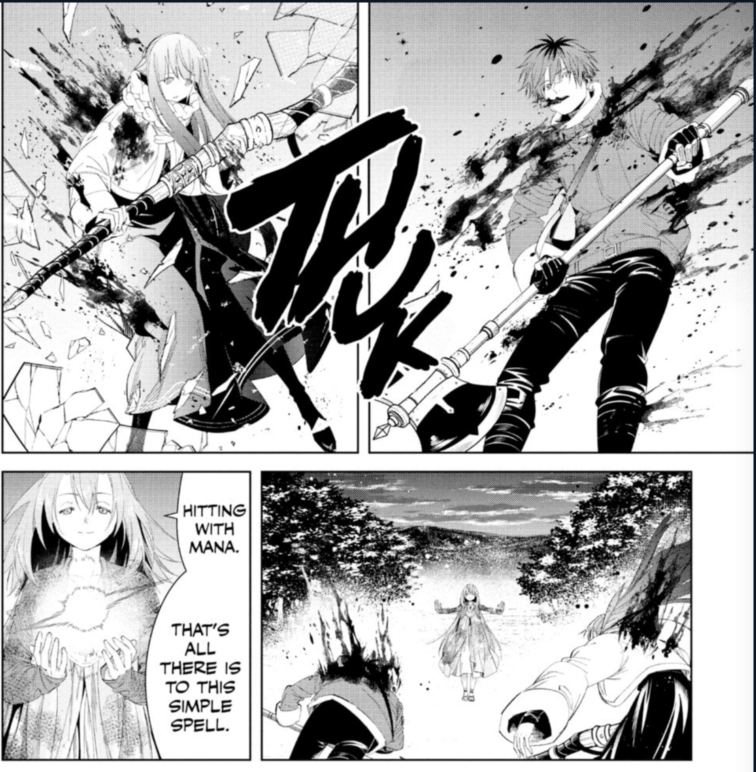

I SEE. YOU'RE JUST FAST.
THAT'S NOT ORDINARY ZOLTRAAK. WHAT'S THAT SPELL?
BOOMBOOMBOOM

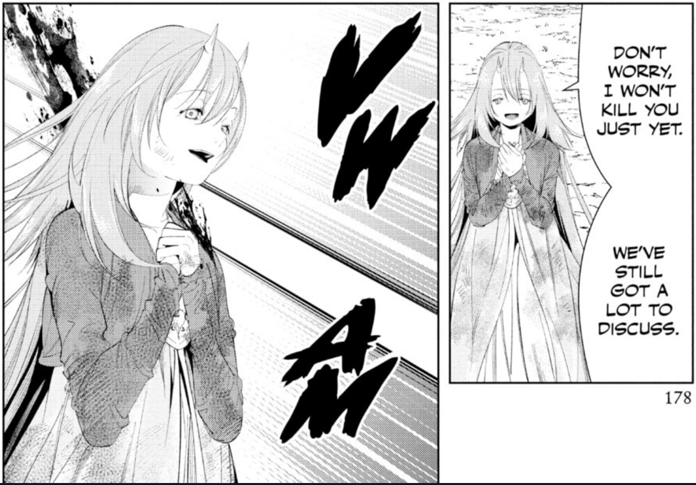


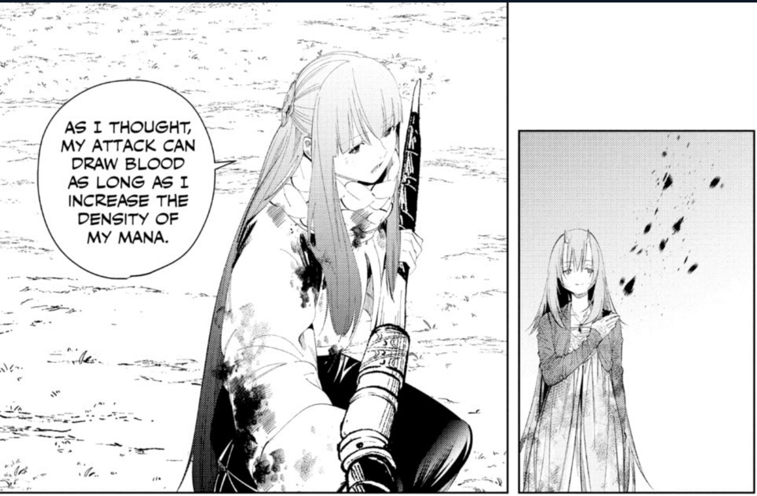

SHE'S BARELY TAKEN ANY DAMAGE.
THOSE WERE ALL DIRECT HITS.

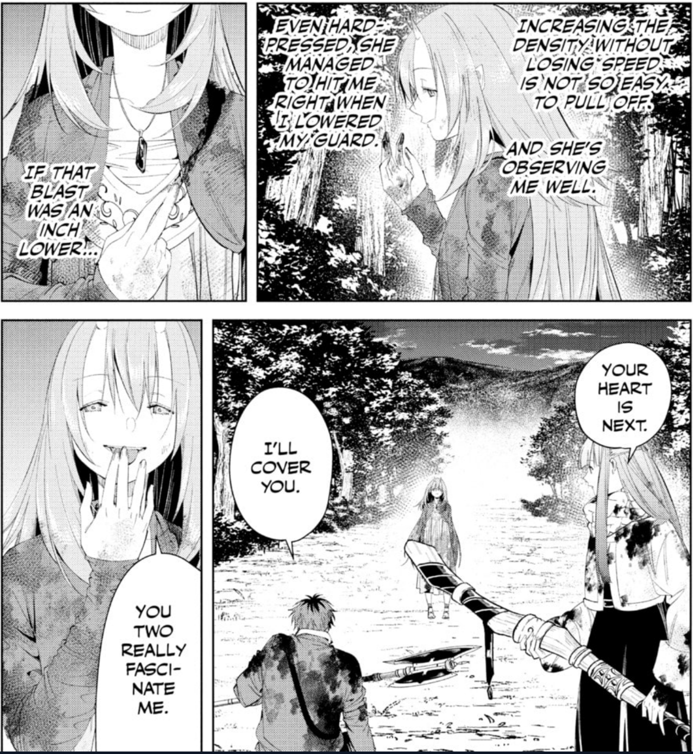

I GET IT NOW...
HER ENORMOUS MANA BLOCKED THEM.
ALL MY SPELLS, SKILLS, AND TRAINING...
...GET KNOCKED DOWN BY HER POWERFUL MANA.
THE DIFFERENCE IN HUMAN AND DEMON LIFE SPANS...
...IS A LIMIT THAT WE CAN NEVER EXCEED.
A RAPID-FIRE VARIANT OF ZOLTRAAK, HUH?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A SPELL WITH SUCH A SPEED.

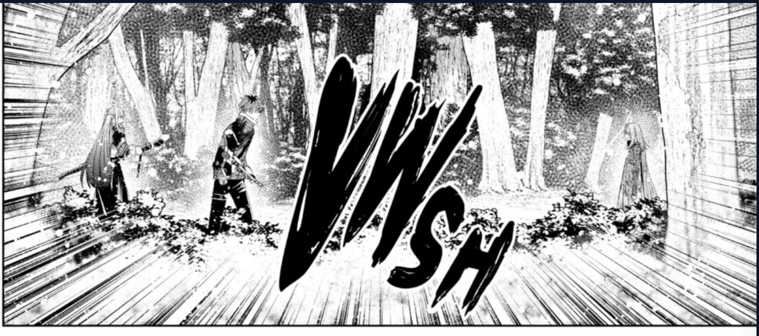

THANK YOU...
...FOR SHOWING ME SUCH A WONDERFUL SPELL.
TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE, I'LL SHOW YOU MY SPECIALTY.

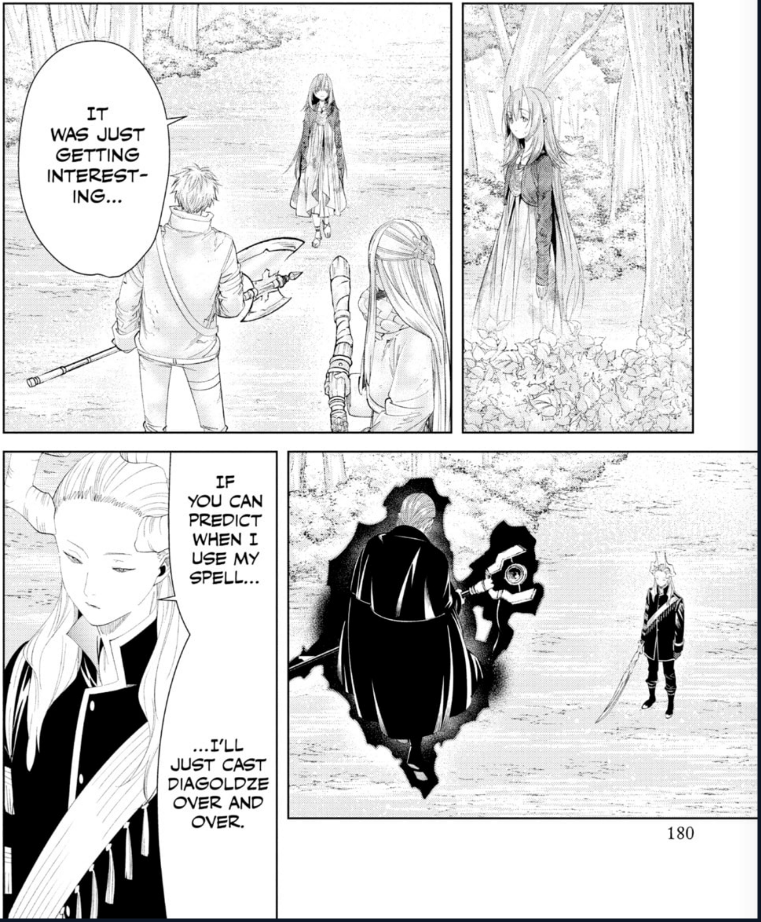

THUK
HITTING WITH MANA.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO THIS SIMPLE SPELL.

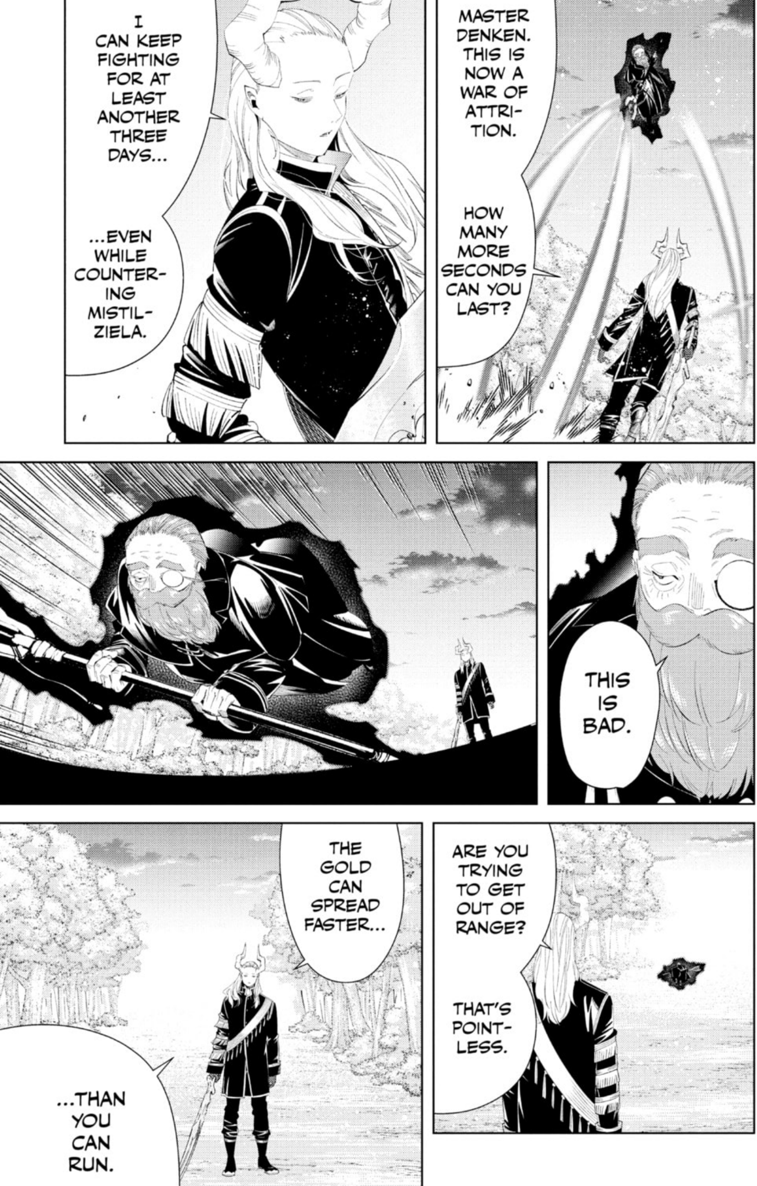

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T KILL YOU JUST YET.
WE'VE STILL GOT A LOT TO DISCUSS.
VWAM

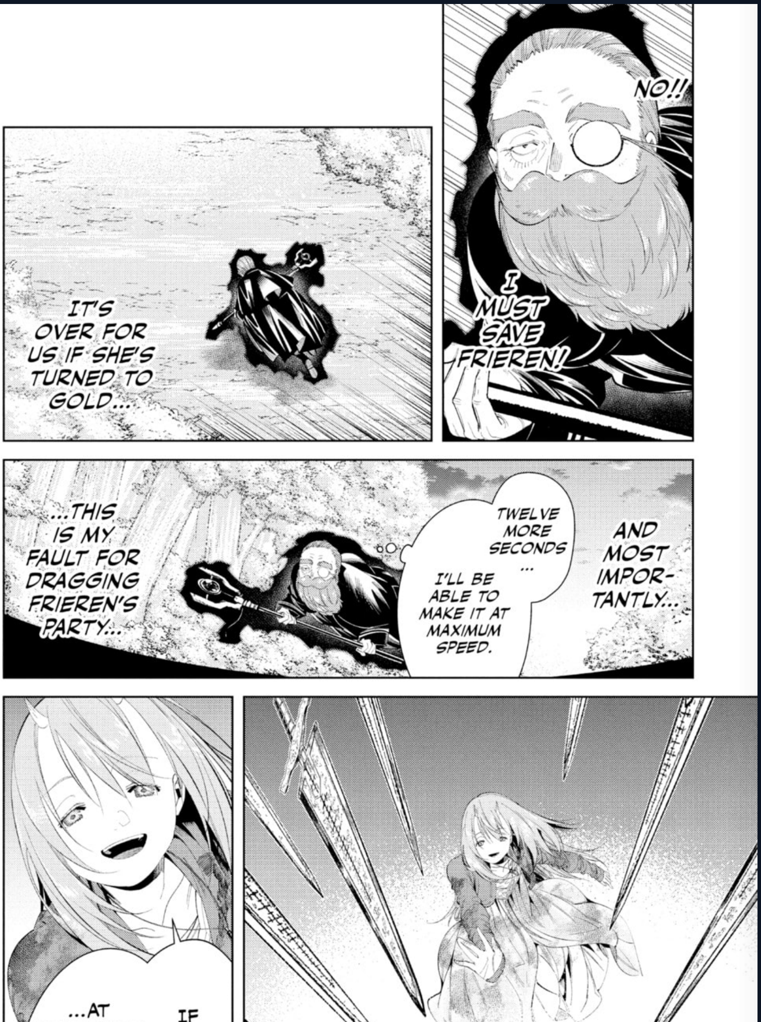

AS I THOUGHT, MY ATTACK CAN DRAW BLOOD AS LONG AS I INCREASE THE DENSITY OF MY MANA.

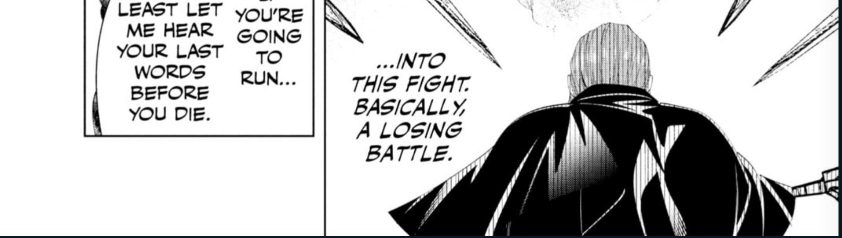

INCREASING THE DENSITY WITHOUT LOSING SPEED IS NOT SO EASY TO PULL OFF.
AND SHE'S OBSERVING ME WELL.
EVEN HARD-PRESSED, SHE MANAGED TO HIT ME RIGHT WHEN I LOWERED MY GUARD.
IF THAT BLAST WAS AN INCH LOWER...
YOUR HEART IS NEXT.
I'LL COVER YOU.
YOU TWO REALLY FASCINATE ME.

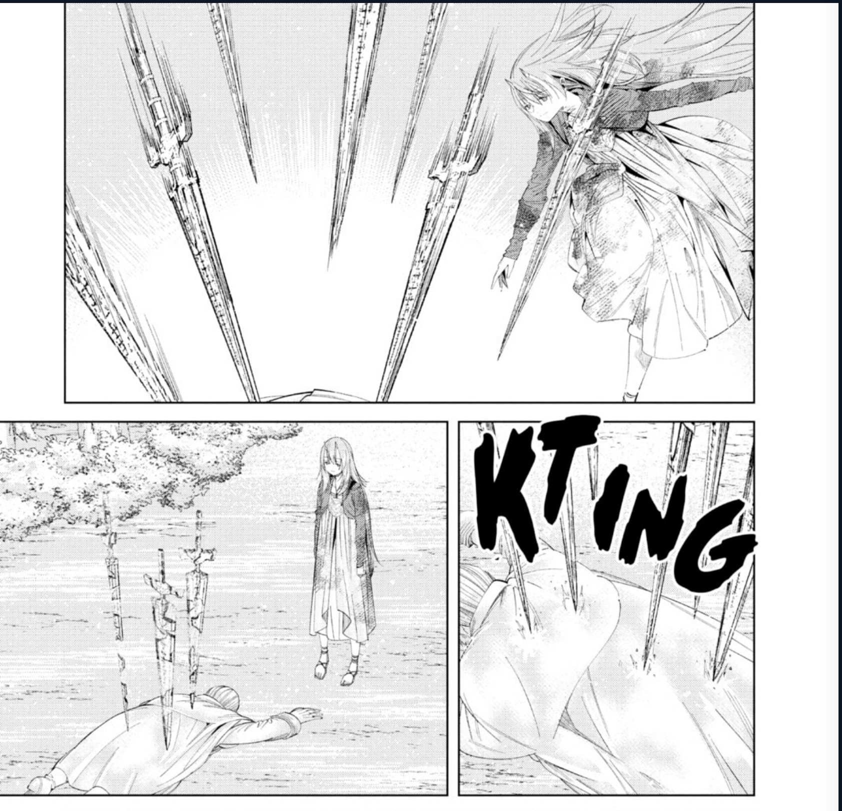


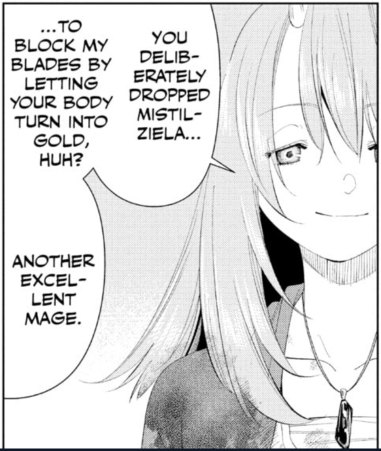

IT WAS JUST GETTING INTERESTING...
IF YOU CAN PREDICT WHEN I USE MY SPELL...
...I'LL JUST CAST DIAGOLDZE OVER AND OVER.

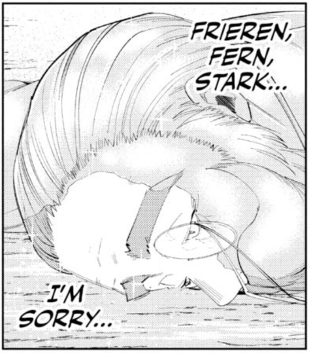

MASTER DENKEN. THIS IS NOW A WAR OF ATTRITION.
HOW MANY MORE SECONDS CAN YOU LAST?
I CAN KEEP FIGHTING FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER THREE DAYS...
...EVEN WHILE COUNTERING MISTILZIELA.
THIS IS BAD.
ARE YOU TRYING TO GET OUT OF RANGE?
THAT'S POINTLESS.
THE GOLD CAN SPREAD FASTER...
...THAN YOU CAN RUN.

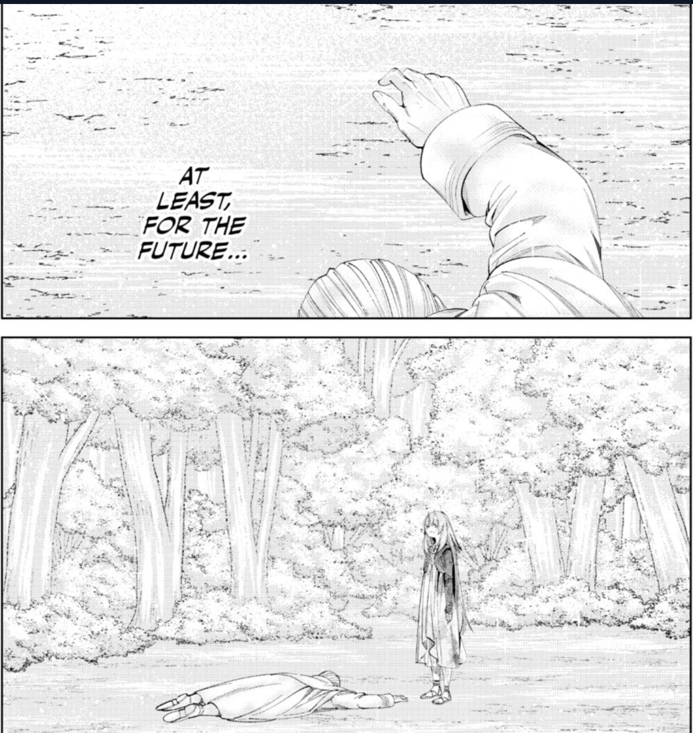

NO!!
I MUST SAVE FRIEREN!
IT'S OVER FOR US IF SHE'S TURNED TO GOLD...
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...
TWELVE MORE SECONDS... I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT AT MAXIMUM SPEED.
...THIS IS MY FAULT FOR DRAGGING FRIEREN'S PARTY...
...AT
IF

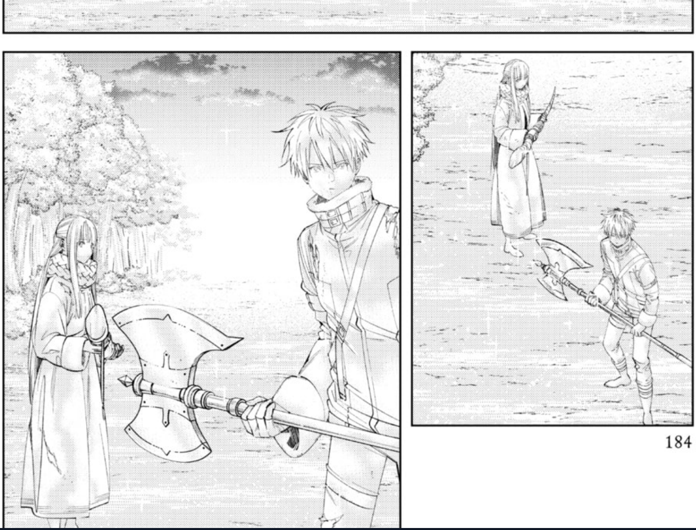

...INTO THIS FIGHT. BASICALLY, A LOSING BATTLE.
YOU'RE GOING TO RUN...
LEAST LET ME HEAR YOUR LAST WORDS BEFORE YOU DIE.

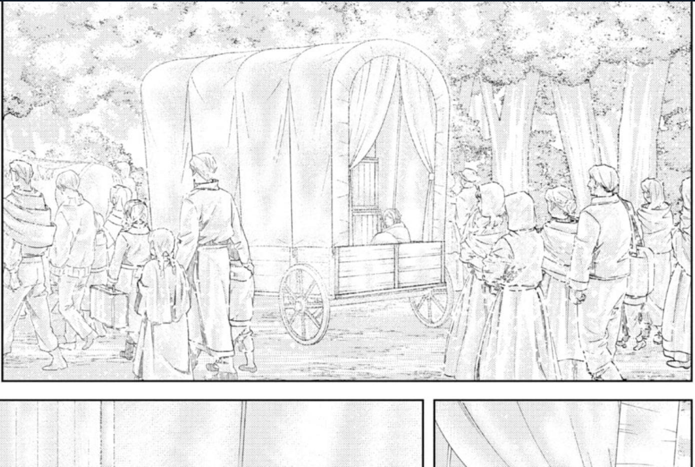


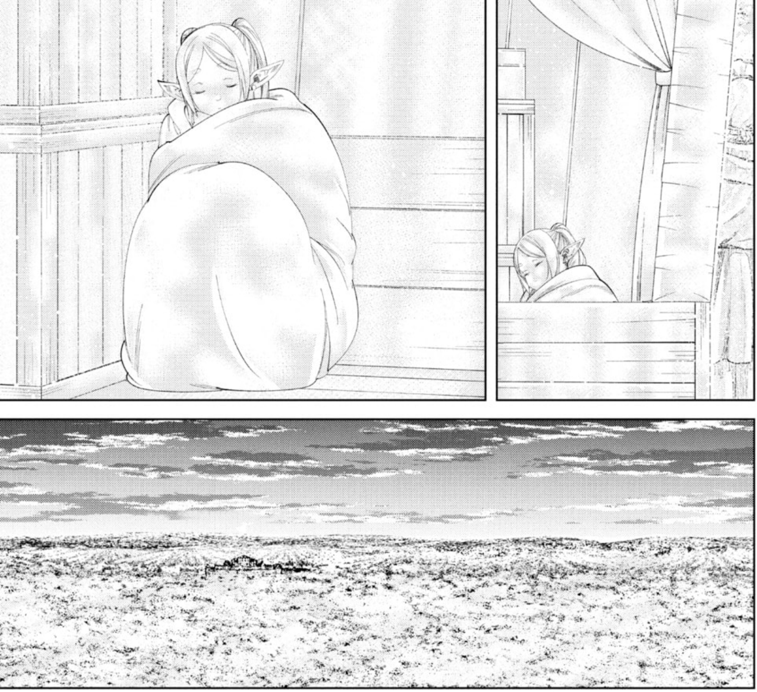

YOU DELIBERATELY DROPPED MISTILZIELA...
...TO BLOCK MY BLADES BY LETTING YOUR BODY TURN INTO GOLD, HUH?
ANOTHER EXCELLENT MAGE.

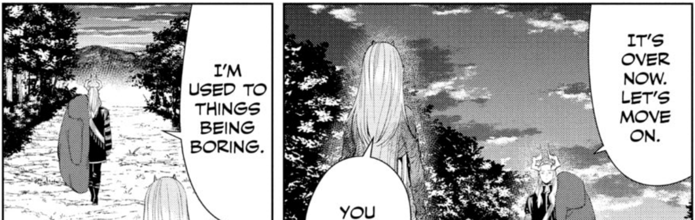

FRIEREN, FERN, STARK...
I'M SORRY...

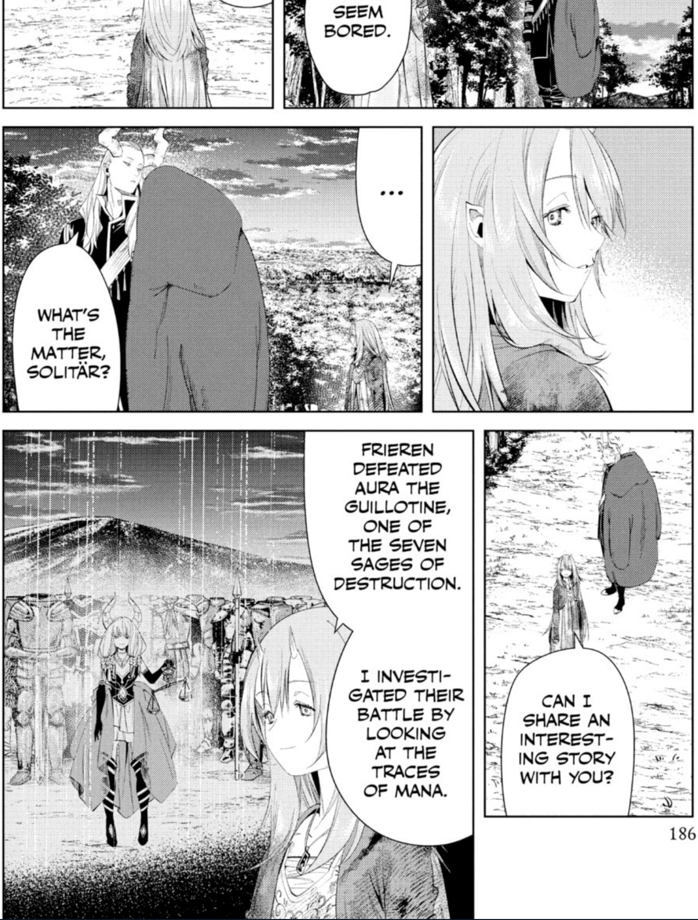

AT LEAST, FOR THE FUTURE...



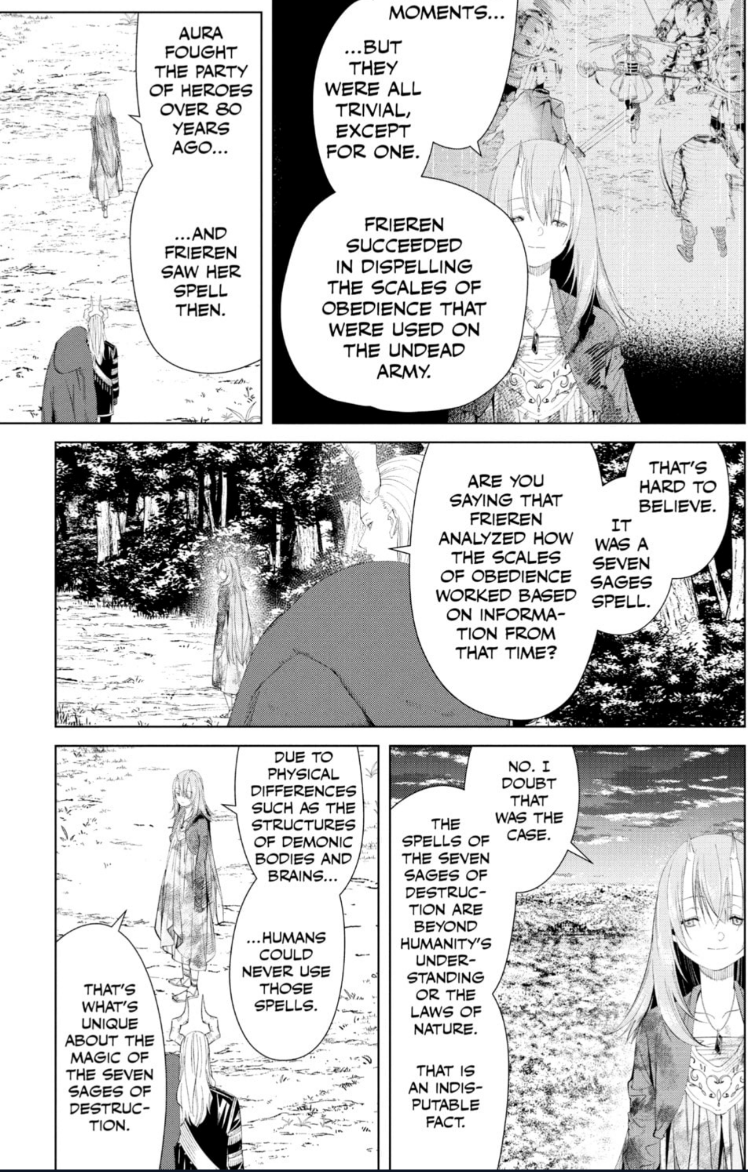


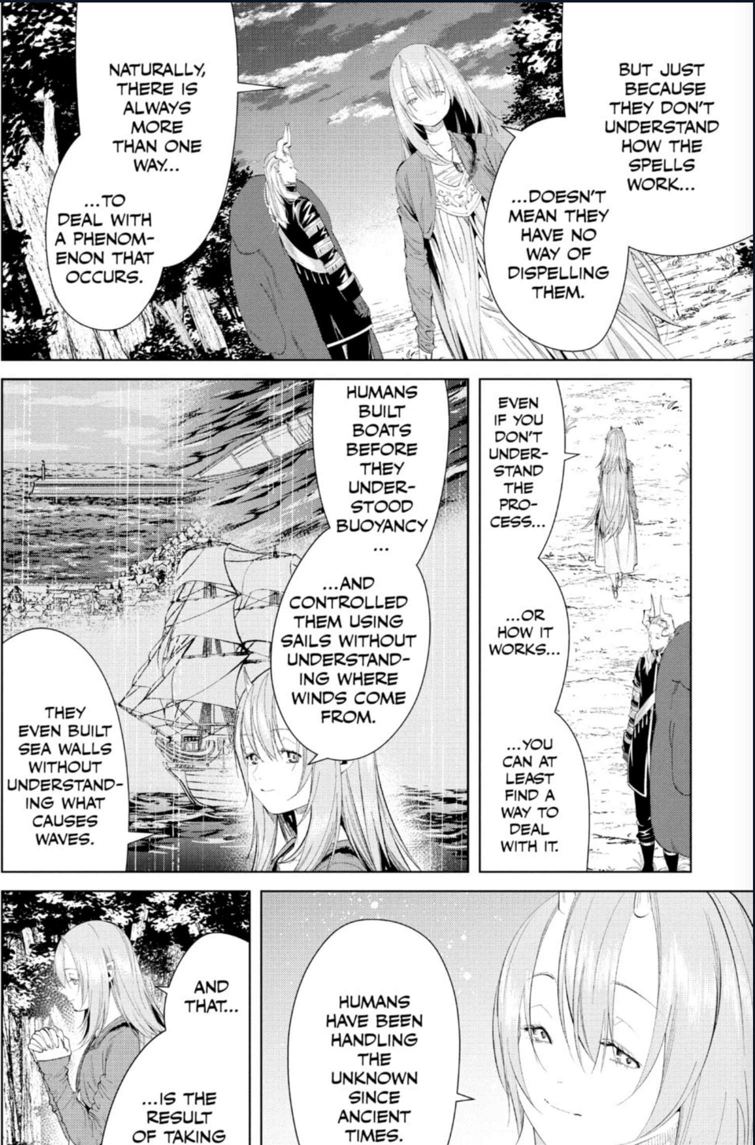


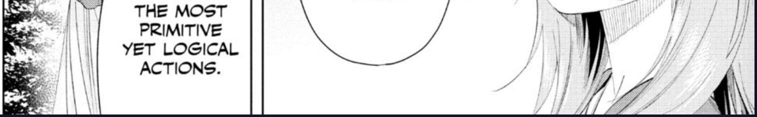

IT'S OVER NOW. LET'S MOVE ON.
YOU
I'M USED TO THINGS BEING BORING.

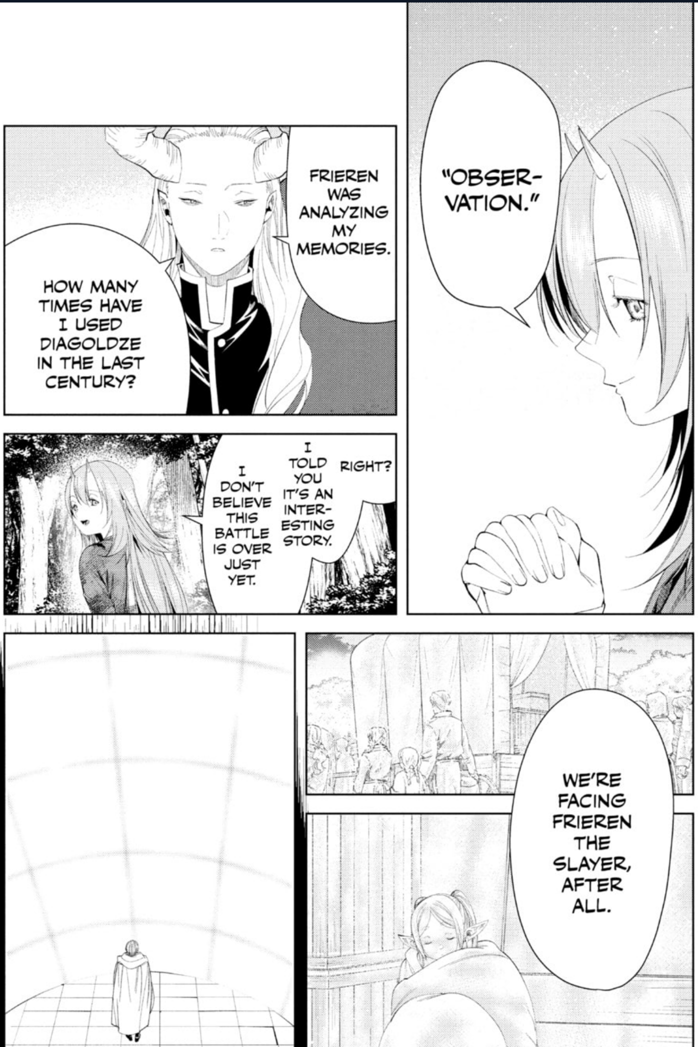

SEEM BORED.
...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SOLITÄR?
CAN I SHARE AN INTERESTING STORY WITH YOU?
FRIEREN DEFEATED AURA THE GUILLOTINE, ONE OF THE SEVEN SAGES OF DESTRUCTION.
I INVESTIGATED THEIR BATTLE BY LOOKING AT THE TRACES OF MANA.

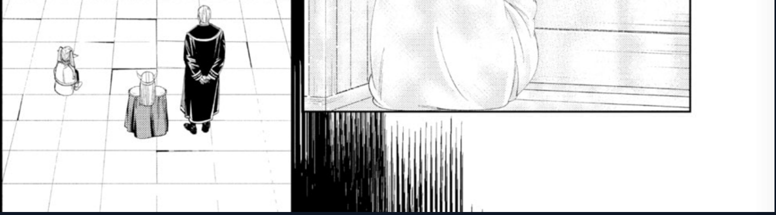
THERE WERE MANY INTRIGUING

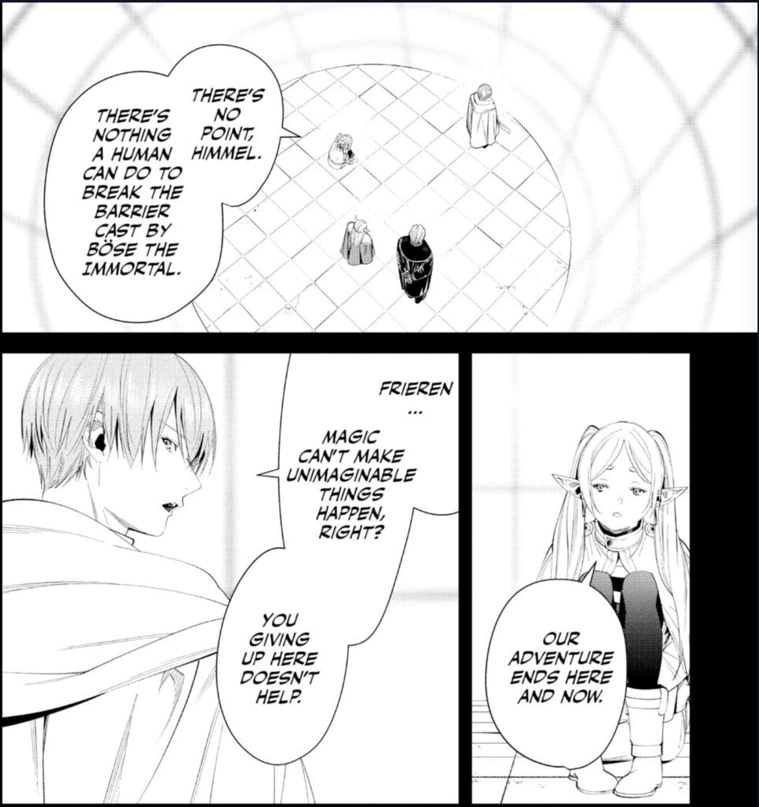

MOMENTS...
...BUT THEY WERE ALL TRIVIAL, EXCEPT FOR ONE.
FRIEREN SUCCEEDED IN DISPELLING THE SCALES OF OBEDIENCE THAT WERE USED ON THE UNDEAD ARMY.
AURA FOUGHT THE PARTY OF HEROES OVER 80 YEARS AGO...
...AND FRIEREN SAW HER SPELL THEN.
THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.
IT WAS A SEVEN SAGES SPELL.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT FRIEREN ANALYZED HOW THE SCALES OF OBEDIENCE WORKED BASED ON INFORMATION FROM THAT TIME?
NO. I DOUBT THAT WAS THE CASE.
THE SPELLS OF THE SEVEN SAGES OF DESTRUCTION ARE BEYOND HUMANITY'S UNDERSTANDING OR THE LAWS OF NATURE.
THAT IS AN INDISPUTABLE FACT.
DUE TO PHYSICAL DIFFERENCES SUCH AS THE STRUCTURES OF DEMONIC BODIES AND BRAINS...
...HUMANS COULD NEVER USE THOSE SPELLS.
THAT'S WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE MAGIC OF THE SEVEN SAGES OF DESTRUCTION.

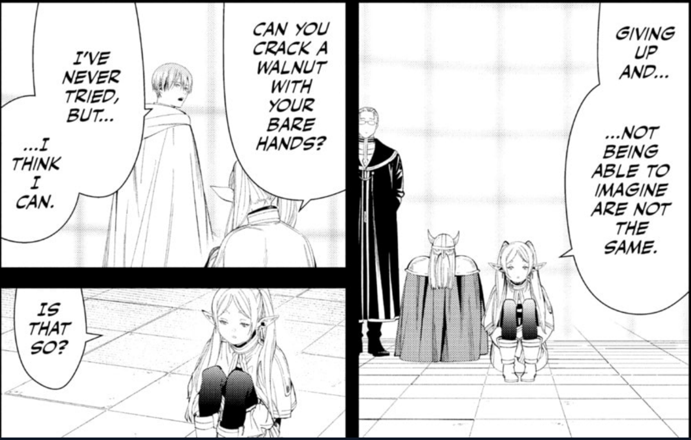

BUT JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THE SPELLS WORK...
...DOESN'T MEAN THEY HAVE NO WAY OF DISPELLING THEM.
NATURALLY, THERE IS ALWAYS MORE THAN ONE WAY...
...TO DEAL WITH A PHENOMENON THAT OCCURS.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS...
...OR HOW IT WORKS...
...YOU CAN AT LEAST FIND A WAY TO DEAL WITH IT.
HUMANS BUILT BOATS BEFORE THEY UNDERSTOOD BUOYANCY...
...AND CONTROLLED THEM USING SAILS WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WHERE WINDS COME FROM.
THEY EVEN BUILT SEA WALLS WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WHAT CAUSES WAVES.
HUMANS HAVE BEEN HANDLING THE UNKNOWN SINCE ANCIENT TIMES.
AND THAT...
...IS THE RESULT OF TAKING

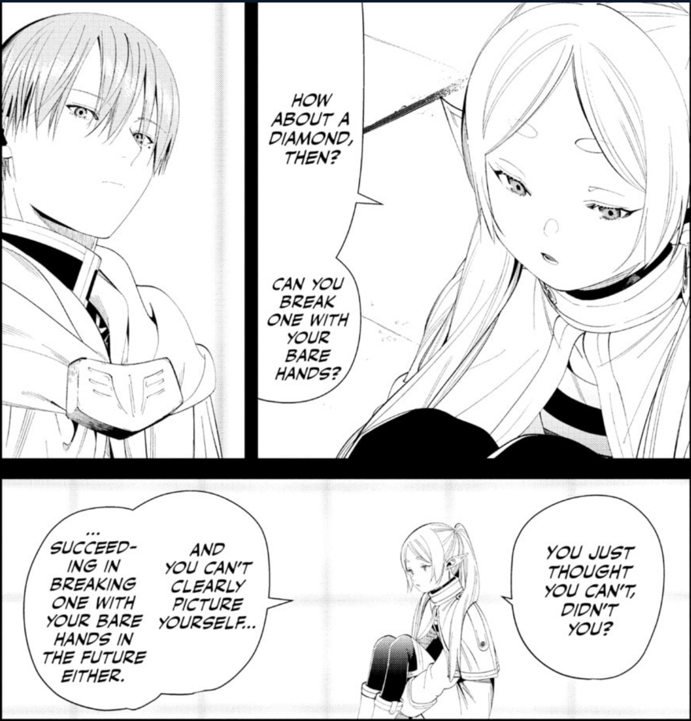

THE MOST PRIMITIVE YET LOGICAL ACTIONS.

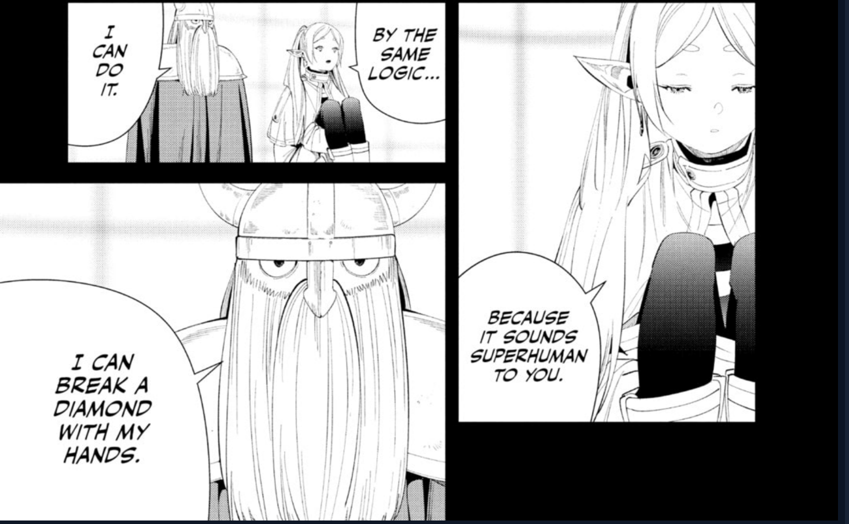

"OBSERVATION."
FRIEREN WAS ANALYZING MY MEMORIES.
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I USED DIAGOLDZE IN THE LAST CENTURY?
RIGHT?
I TOLD YOU IT'S AN INTERESTING STORY.
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS BATTLE IS OVER JUST YET.
WE'RE FACING FRIEREN THE SLAYER, AFTER ALL.

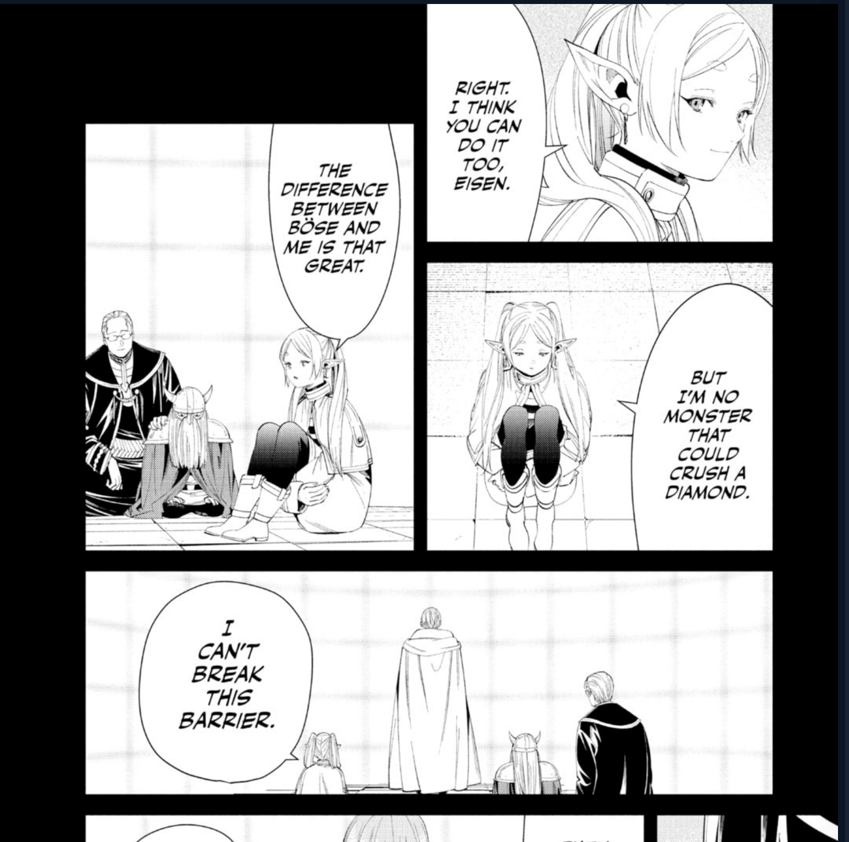


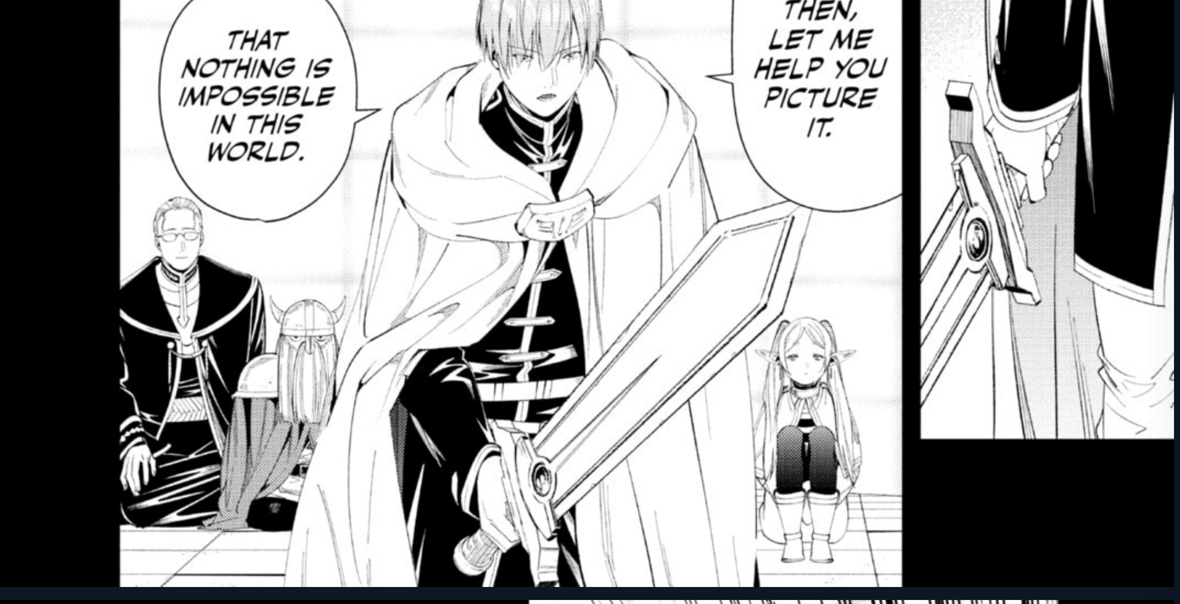

THERE'S NO POINT, HIMMEL.
THERE'S NOTHING A HUMAN CAN DO TO BREAK THE BARRIER CAST BY BÖSE THE IMMORTAL.
OUR ADVENTURE ENDS HERE AND NOW.
FRIEREN ... MAGIC CAN'T MAKE UNIMAGINABLE THINGS HAPPEN, RIGHT?
YOU GIVING UP HERE DOESN'T HELP.

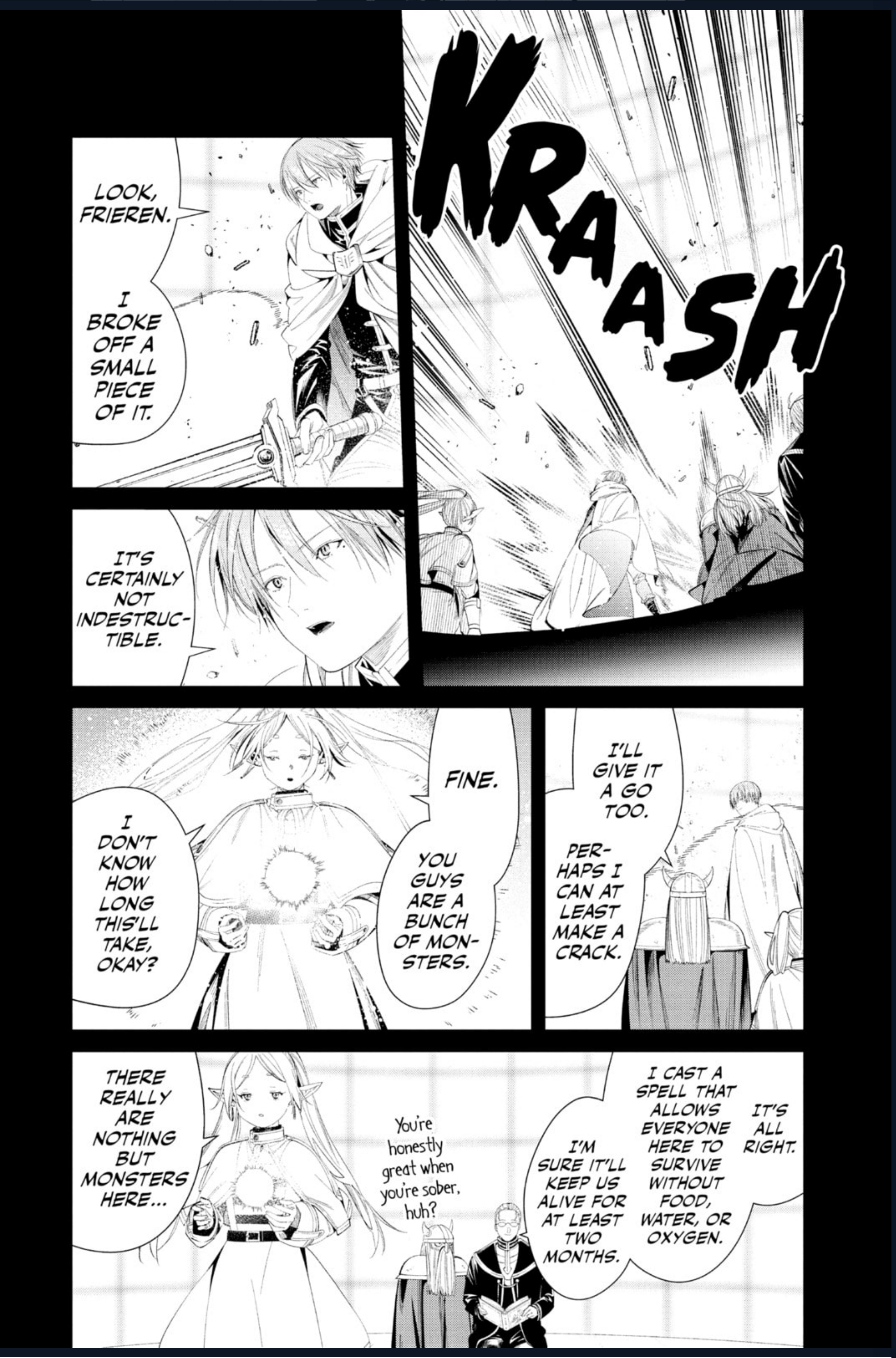

GIVING UP AND...
...NOT BEING ABLE TO IMAGINE ARE NOT THE SAME.
CAN YOU CRACK A WALNUT WITH YOUR BARE HANDS?
I'VE NEVER TRIED, BUT...
...I THINK I CAN.
IS THAT SO?

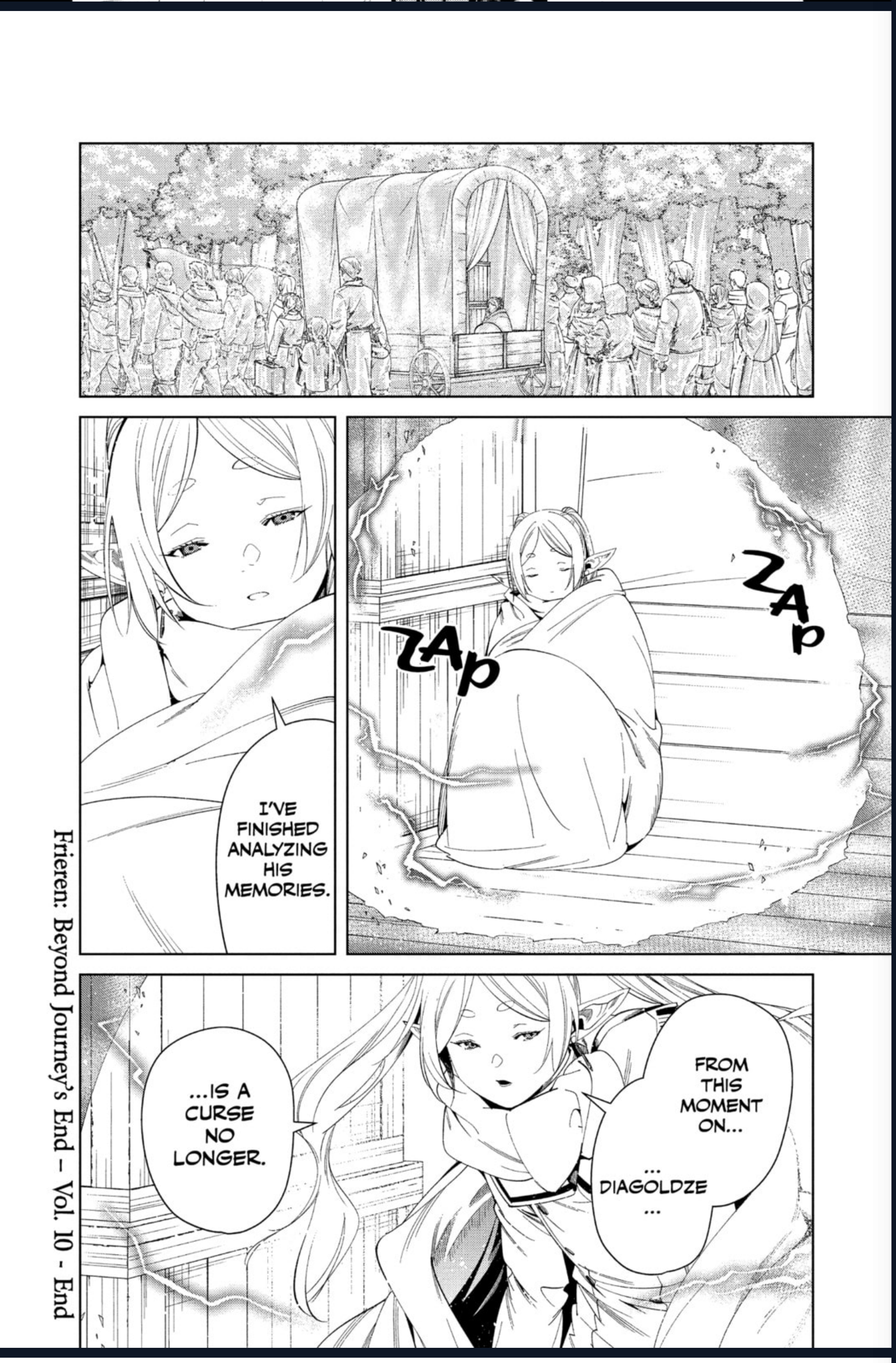

HOW ABOUT A DIAMOND, THEN?
CAN YOU BREAK ONE WITH YOUR BARE HANDS?
YOU JUST THOUGHT YOU CAN'T, DIDN'T YOU?
AND YOU CAN'T CLEARLY PICTURE YOURSELF...
...SUCCEEDING IN BREAKING ONE WITH YOUR BARE HANDS IN THE FUTURE EITHER.

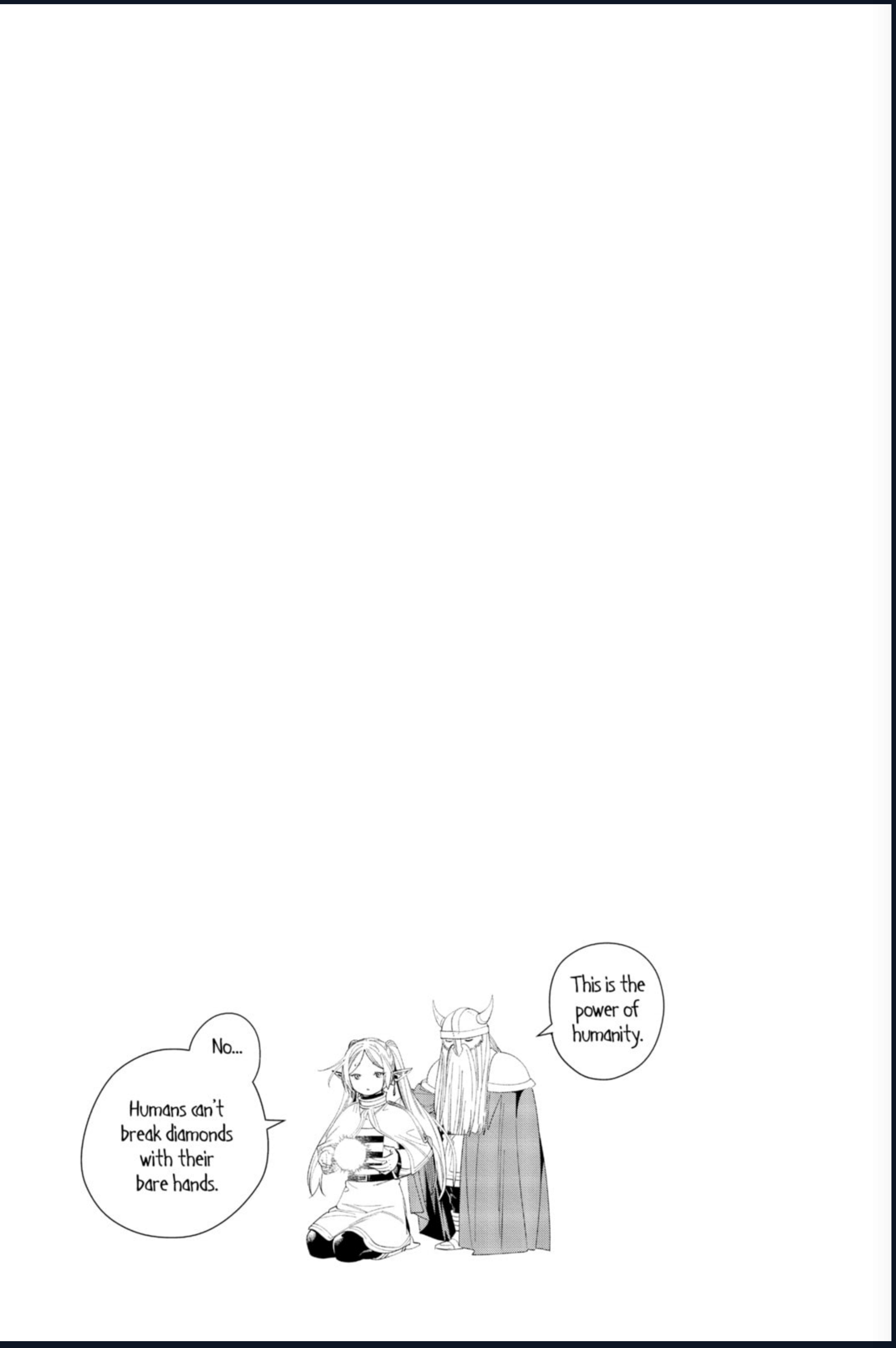

BECAUSE IT SOUNDS SUPERHUMAN TO YOU.
BY THE SAME LOGIC...
I CAN DO IT.
I CAN BREAK A DIAMOND WITH MY HANDS.


RIGHT. I THINK YOU CAN DO IT TOO, EISEN.
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BÖSE AND ME IS THAT GREAT.
BUT I'M NO MONSTER THAT COULD CRUSH A DIAMOND.
I CAN'T BREAK THIS BARRIER.


THEN, LET ME HELP YOU PICTURE IT.
THAT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE IN THIS WORLD.


KRAASH
LOOK, FRIEREN.
I BROKE OFF A SMALL PIECE OF IT.
IT'S CERTAINLY NOT INDESTRUCTIBLE.
I'LL GIVE IT A GO TOO.
PERHAPS I CAN AT LEAST MAKE A CRACK.
FINE.
YOU GUYS ARE A BUNCH OF MONSTERS.
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THIS'LL TAKE, OKAY?
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I CAST A SPELL THAT ALLOWS EVERYONE HERE TO SURVIVE WITHOUT FOOD, WATER, OR OXYGEN.
I'M SURE IT'LL KEEP US ALIVE FOR AT LEAST TWO MONTHS.
You're honestly great when you're sober, huh?
THERE REALLY ARE NOTHING BUT MONSTERS HERE...


ZAp
ZAp
I'VE FINISHED ANALYZING HIS MEMORIES.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON...
...DIAGOLDZE...
...IS A CURSE NO LONGER.
Frieren: Beyond Journey's End – Vol. 10 - End


This is the power of humanity.
No...
Humans can't break diamonds with their bare hands.

← Previous Chapter

Next Chapter →